Hattie’s Birthday Box
By Pam Conrad
Genre: Short Story

Focus Skill: Word Relationships
Focus Strategy: Self-Question

Directions: While reading the story “Hattie’s Birthday Box” by Pam Conrad, answer the following questions with information from the text.

1. Why is the whole family gathering?
   (page 371)

2.) What is the time period for the story?
   (page 371)

3.) Why is Grandaddy nervous?
   (page 372)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.) Why did Grandaddy stew and brood the night before Hattie left for Nebraska?</td>
<td>(page 374)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.) Why does Grandaddy make up his tale about the box?</td>
<td>(page 374)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.) Why doesn’t Grandaddy ever buy something for Hattie’s birthday box?</td>
<td>(page 376)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.) Hattie says, “Oh, Spencer, Spencer, there’s been too much time and space.” What does she mean? (page 378)

8.) What lesson did Hattie learn the first winter when she and Otto ran out of food? (page 379)

9.) Why does Hattie finally open the box? (page 380)

10.) What does the girl smell in the box that her Grandaddy made for Hattie? (page 380)
11.) In Hattie’s box, the granddaughter smells “a young farmer’s stubbornness, a pioneer mother’s sorrow, and a wondrous wild and lasting hope.” Name one event in Hattie’s life that goes with each.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

12.) Why is the empty box the best gift Hattie ever received?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________